honour, the privilege and the responsibility of a sacred trust.

We should realise that we have no absolute rights of property in our children aid that it is unjust to complain when He, the real owner, the Eternal Father, calls them to return to their eternal home, that we cannot do more than. cheerfully surrendering ourselves to His Divine Will. We should take consolation in the" sublime saying " The Lord hath given and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Again it is the fear of death that prompts us to realise how traisient and even trifling are the concerns which belong to this life, how in everything mundane there is an

[1] element of disappointment and even gratification is fleeting;

to look up, to look above the dust and rubbish of earthly possessions aid pleasures, to " an inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled aid that fadeth not a ray." Above all, it is the ordinance of death that teaches us that in the soul of man only caii be found that perfect, incorruptible, unceasing peace and joy which the whole world can, never give or take a\\ay.

Furthermore, examples are not wanting where scenes of

grief or death are spurs to the religious instincts of man.
The sudden death of a dear brother or sister, husband or wife,
father or mother, commonly operates revolutions in our
^ way of life by His Mercy. And the mai or woman who
would have remained a sunny garden flower, with no room
for its roots and too much sun-shine for its head, by the
falling of the walls or the neglect of the gardener, is made the
ba lian of the forest, yielding shade and fruit to wide neigh-
bourhoods of men, continually growing up and branching out
and throwing do TO. new roots that all the homing birds of
life may fail not of cosy nests therein.
History is not wanting in cases where the sudden sight
of a tragic calamity was the starting point in a memorable